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MAPIT SKYWATCH

No.35

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1980

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READERS - LETTERS

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Dear David,

Your SKYWATCH we must say we found very interesting and admire your determination to go about your activities in a professional manner, something which is vital in such a controversial field of study. In SKYWATCH 34 we were greatly impressed with the fairness of your reporting; it must be difficult for those in ufology to reconcile the fact that dispute is going on within the movement. Is it really as it appears to us, a north versus south movement, or just the age old problem of personality clash? Nevertheless, despite this, it was most interesting to read of the BUFORA sponsored Congress and we're sure that this will become a feature of ufology in the future.

Our best wishes, Lynn and Tony Halsall, Gravenhurst, Beds.....

Dear David,

Mark Moravec was pleased that his article "Ethics" has been well received by UK investigators. We have formed the Australian Centre for UFO Studies and it will serve to further enhance the excellent work currently being done by various state researchers. As well as this, our group - UFO Research (NSW) have decided to adopt the same line as Gepan in France. No longer will we investigate low weight cases, instead we will be concentrating on a select few each year (10-20) maximum and reviewing them very critically. To say I was impressed with your printed sheet "Statement of Intent" would be an understatement. Great to see you taking this attitude, Dave, it is exactly the way we feel in Australia! All the best for 1980.

David Reneke, Sidney, Australia.....

Dear David,

Many thanks for your letter and SKYWATCH No.33. I would have liked to have been present at the UFO Congress in London; perhaps a lot of good will be derived from the two-day Congress. My view is that there should be one main centre for all information to be forwarded to instead of small factions keepint reports to themselves. The 'back-biting' that some groups maintain can do nothing but harm to the common goal which is to bring to the public the truth about UFOs. Some reports are so cranky that is it any wonder that people are reluctant to discuss a sighting for fear of being made fun of. Yours sincerely, Jack Allen, Crewe, Cheshire.....

Dear David,

I enjoyed the recent issue of SKYWATCH with various comments on the London International Congress last August. In the main I agreed with most of the points raised, and particularly feel that John Rimmer is absolutely right in calling for two levels of conference. However, I thought I had better say a few words about my piece - which Lionel Beer seems to think might be regarded as 'egotistical'. Firstly, I would stress that it was (as Lionel assumed) a very personal view. I also decided to do something that would be different from the various factual reviews that would inevitably be written. Thus I did a fairly light-hearted commentary interspersed with little anecdotes that I thought might interest your readers more than yet another straight reportage. If this is egotistical then I am guilty. I did enjoy the conference (I always do) and despite what might be thought I bear no animosity towards BUFORA. I have great concern for the problems being considered by the working party, but feel that the preliminary results are not very encouraging. The definition for "ufo report" quoted by Peter Hill is ridiculous, aside from it referring to any unexplained phenomenon it would be impossible to unequivocally state that a report relates to no known physical or psychological event or process. I defy anyone to come up with a ufo report that can actually fit the definition without question.

All the best, Jenny Randles, Irlam.....

(Editor Note: This letter of Jenny's has been edited due to space. Should anyone like to see full contents then contact me - DLR).

Dear David,

What you ask is virtually impossible! (By "ask" Ian refers to the following question I put to him - "How should ufo groups plan for the future and also gain academic interest?" - Ed). In my view and that of many others, the ufo field has thoroughly discredited itself with sloppy thinking, downright incompetent research, gullibility and a reluctance to expose blatant hoaxes or contradictory data. If you have worthwhile evidence scientists will look at it; if not, then most of them will continue with their present attitude. The challenge to ufology is the same as it has always been: find the evidence!

James Oberg put the case in his New Scientist article (Oct.11 1979) far better than I could hope to. My own view is that ufos are a psychological and sociological phenomena and worth studying from that angle. But it is painfully obvious after more than 30 years of failure that ufologists have not found any evidence to make scientists as a whole take ufos seriously. Is it because that evidence does not exist? Sincerely, Ian Ridpath, Brentford, Middlesex.....

Dear David,

I found the various viewpoints on the BUFORA conference in the last issue very interesting. Personally, I thought the papers presented rather disappointing (with some exceptions), and the presentation was marred by inexcusable technical baffoonery. I have long advocated that such events should be aimed at scientists and serious amateur ufologists and that the general public and the press should be discouraged from attending. The level of scientific sophistication of some of the people present was illustrated by the number of people attempting to take flash pictures of slides on the screen! On the subject of the working party, I feel that it would have been better if it had not coincided with the main conference, and so had not 'closeted' some of the more interesting attendees from contact with the rest of us. Secondly, I feel that I must clarify Jenny Randles' account of my own brief contribution to the official proceedings. I am fairly sure that what Jenny presents as a direct quote of mine is not accurate, and it gives the impression (I am sure unintentionally) that I made my point in a rather rude and incoherent manner. As I recall, after Peter Hill had read out the report as reproduced in 'SKYWATCH', I obtained the floor in an orderly and dignified manner during question time. I then asked Peter to clarify section three: since it seemed to me that the agreed definition 'UFO Report', in principle included any unidentified phenomenon. Peter countered this by saying that this was not the intention, and that he thought that if I read the full definition I would see that this was not the case. Since I could not do this at the time, I left it at that. However, having now had the opportunity to study the definition properly, I feel that my objection was valid, and I have made it again in a written submission to the working party (see later in this issue). Finally a word to BUFORA: Please get the finger out and publish the proceedings of the London Conference (not to mention the previous one!) so that we can comment on what was actually said, not on what we think we remember was said!

With best wishes for the New Decade, John Hind, Irish UFO Research Centre, Belfast, Northern Ireland.....

Dear David,

SKYWATCH 34 was very interesting as usual particularly Mrs. AWS letter, combining ufos and psychic experiences. This happens so often and I think it will have to be taken more seriously in the future. I enjoyed reading about the congress - wish I could have been there. If I may offer one criticism - Jenny Randles' bitahiness gives a very bad impression in sad contrast to the others who seem anxious for co-operation. However, it sounds as if the congress achieved quite a lot, though maybe they aimed for too much. Lectures to inform the public plus behind the scenes committee meetings don't mix very well. Best wishes, Magda Graham, Darwen, Lance.....

MAPIT NEWSDESK

Hoping all members and readers had an enjoyable festive season and that 1980 will turn out to be a good unological year. Thanks for your support in 1979 and our contacts overseas are still growing monthly. Overseas organisations are very interested in the UK situation as regards our present attitude towards research/investigation. I hope they found the recent 'joint statement of intent' acceptable? FUFOR and MAPIT firmly believe that this will benefit both groups - any comments (constructive) please on our plans are most welcomeand now to the news.

The Earth Colonisation Research Association based in New Zealand has a change of address: write to: 53 Jubilee Road, Khandallah, Wellington.....

'The Encyclopedia of UFOs' is published by NEL in June; it is written by American Ronald Story and is 550 pages in length with contributions from 100 of the world's "top Ufologists". You've got to be a top one to afford it - hardback: £12.00 and paperback: £6.00.....

Lady Wilson, wife of Sir Harold Wilson, former British Prime Minister, stated in an interview in October '79, 'I'm fascinated by UFOs. We (with Sir Harold?) thought we saw one at the bottom of this garden (in the Scilly Isles) one night. I am sure there is life on other planets".....

Anyone interested in contacting the author of 'Chariots of the Gods' - Erich (Was God an Astronaut) Daniken? If so then contact him at: Baselstrasse 10, CH-Feldbrunnen/So, Switzerland.....

The Allen Hynek interview by Canadian Chris Rutkowski featured in SKYWATCH No.32 was recently published in the Turkish magazine 'Ruh Ve Madde' Issue No. 237. This magazine is published in Istanbul and thanks go to Selman Gerceksever for giving us credit.....

Helios News is the name of a new UFO magazine; it is very much pre-eth and declared 'H/N is a magazine of extraterrestrial communications and comment'. Single copies 35p. From the editors: Lynne and Tony Halsall, "Thistledome" 65 Clophill Road, Upper Gravenhurst, Beds. Try a copy!.....

The latest paperback book from Arthur Shuttlewood's keyboard is entitled: 'UFO Magic in Motion' (Sphere books - £1.10). It features a sighting my mother had in 1973 and also a quotation by yours truly - see pages 189 and 228.....

Thanks go out to Geoffrey Grundill and US Contact Lindy Whitehurst who between them have just donated over 300 paperclippings to our reference library - this is a marvellous gesture.....

Terry Hooper wrote in recently to say that he was not dismissed from UFO International, as mentioned in SW 34; he in fact resigned and is still very active in the subject. He is liaison officer for the British Flying Saucer Bureau founded in 1953 as well as editor of their new publication "UFO News Bulletin". Contact address is: 4, Newton Street, Easton, Bristol, Avon.....

The MUFON Symposium in 1980 will be held on the 7th-8th June; the venue is at High School in Clear Lake City, Texas and is not far from the Houston Space Center. Write to: MUFON, 103 Old Town Road, Seguin, Texas 78155 USA.....

Norman Oliver who produces "SKYQUEST" tapes has some new titles available (all C 60). The US 1896/1897 airship flap; the Arnold Sighting/The Maury Island case; The Father Gill Classic. Cost of each cassette is £3.00. For a full list of titles send a SAE/IRC to SKYQUEST (SW), 95 Taunton Road, London SE12 8PA.....

I was amused to read the following in the 'Mundo Monitor' No.19 Nov.1979. "James Moseley of Fort Lee, New Jersey writes to inform us he has decided to use the title 'Saucer Clit' as the permanent name for his newsletter, with which we take issue. Clit is short for clitoris...which is a sexual

organ of a woman....just inside the vulva....that gets excited during sexual intercourse. (The muslims circumcized it, because they felt it was competition to the male penis because it becomes erectile). It is also in female dogs; however, we feel such a title is a slam at woman, if he keeps it up.... we will call our newsletter 'Saucer Penis'. How do you like that!" It would seem Mr. Moseley has a fetish for parts of the human body; his newsletter was recently named 'Saucer Tit' - which describes his antics with these silly names. I wonder if he ever does any serious and meaningful research into the subject?.....

Phantom Helicopters - a UK selection is the title of my latest article on UEOs (Unidentified Everyday Objects). It appears in Awareness Vol.8 No.3 Autumn 1979 which is edited by Bernard Delair on behalf of Contact UK. Ten cases are featured from 1973 through to 1979. Editorial Address: 19 Cumnor Road, Wootton, Board Hill, Nr.Oxford, Oxon.....

The fourth national Australian Conference of UFO research organisations was held from the 13th to the 15th October last year in Sydney. It was regarded as highly successful by all those who attended. The tradition of co-operation between UFO groups has been reinforced by the spirit of friendship reflected by all conference participants. Papers presented included: Physical evidence for UFOs in Australia by Bill Chalker; the New Zealand UFO film by Quentin Fogarty; The Ethics of UFO Investigation by Mark Moravec (see SW No.33); The Ben-Boyd UFO Movie; History and Evaluation by David Reneke (full transcript sent to SKYWATCH); in fact over seventeen papers were presented! The ACOS set-up has been modified following discussions at the conference. The basic work format and group connections remain unchanged. However, a new name has been chosen. This being 'Australian centre for UFO Studies (ACUFOS)' a change which reinforces the enhanced status of the Australian UFO Research Community in the international scene. Co-operation will be undertaken on an international level rather than just with the centre for UFO studies based in the USA. The ACUFOS and its membership organisations can be contacted at: PO Box 546, Gosford, NSW 2250, Australia (Credit: Australian UFO Researcher No.60 1979).....

The Northern Earth Mysteries Group are undertaking extensive investigation into Ley-Lines, Zodiacs, Folklore etc. This line of research first highlighted by Alfred Watkins in his book entitled 'The Old Straight Track' now regarded as the leyhunters bible has become very popular in recent years. Their NEM Newsletter presents the work they are involved in as well as meeting reports, general news, moot details and runs to 10 pages which make informative reading and a good primer and insight into this fascinating subject which involves so many things under the 'earth mysteries' banner. Sub Rate: £1.00 for 6 issues and 15p plus postage for single issues. Available from Philip Heselton, 61 Cluber Street, Hull, HU5 3RH.....

UFO INFO EXCHANGE Library based in Wiltshire are producing a UFO INFO Annual 1979 which will include a variety of things and will be based on the very successful data sheets. The price is £3.00 and the next edition will be produced in January 1981. Write to: Barry Gooding, 49 The Down, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.....

Dana Parry, the editor of Unexplained Phenomena News Bulletin, informs me that UPNB has ceased publication due to other commitments, including exams - come back soon, Dana!

From this issue of SKYWATCH, we have to announce an increase in single copy costs and our subscription fee. One issue of SW is 35p and a 6 issue sub and membership to MAPIT is £3.00.

WILL MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE: IF A CROSS APPEARS ON THIS LINE YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTION HAS RUN OUT:

Lionel Beer has stepped down from his office as Chairman of BUFORA. There are no personality clashes or hidden reasons for this. Lionel has been involved for a long time in the day to day running of BUFORA and he did sterling work in connection with the London Congress in London last year. As Lionel says, "I cannot keep up the pace indefinitely and other interests have suffered, so I have decided to step down at a high point and take a well-earned break". The new Chairman of BUFORA is Mr. Leslie Bayer! Finally Lionel has a good hardback book on special offer - Aliens on Earth by Joshua Strickland. Price £1.75p. Available from: 15 Freshwater Court, Crawford St. London W1H 1HS.....

Are you interested in the Loch Ness Monster? "The Ness Information Service" can keep you up to date with Nessie News via its Newsletter. Subscriptions: UK £1.75p; USA/Canada \$ 7.00. Write to Rip Hepple, Huntshildford, St. Joyns Chapel, Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham, or telephone: Wearhead 359.....

Sad news from Belgium. In SPW's 'UFO INFO' Magazine December 1979: To quote "Due to personal and professional circumstances Rudy De Groote will no longer be in the possibility to assure the direction. Please note that SPW will therefore stop all its official activities on December 31st, 1979". Your contributions to Ufology will be sadly missed!.....

Bye for now! - David Rees (Editor).
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GRAPHOLOGY: ANOTHER TOOL FOR UFO RESEARCH? by David Reneke

In pursuing the UFO problem one frequently comes to the point where they begin to have misgivings about the sincerity of the witness or his/her ability to relate the 'truth as it actually happened. How many times has an investigator asked himself "what makes this person tick? has he a hidden personality that I cannot see?" You can investigate the person concerned, his employment history, his relationship with his friends, etc., and you will end up with good, corroborative data to enhance your findings. I believe the UFO investigator must grasp onto anything that can assist him in his work, we can never get too much information on a report

It is with this thought in mind that I would like to seriously propose the adoption of handwriting analysis - Graphology to be more correct - and incorporate it into the initial follow up procedure. You already have the 'raw materials' in the form of a written report, so that half the job is over with. All that would remain is to allow a competent analyst, versed in the subject, to interpret the handwriting and give their views on the person or persons concerned; it may reveal something that could profoundly effect the case; think about it!.....

Of course I would not suggest every report be tackled in this way; in most cases you can plainly see that the witness concerned is stable and is telling the truth to the best of his/her ability. I don't suggest a simple Nocturnal Light get this treatment either; use some common sense and you will see which class of report would merit this follow up. It would prove invaluable in a lot of CElll cases as well as those involving psychic manifestations; it would give the researcher 'another tool' to work with

GRAPHOLOGY is the study of a person's handwriting to obtain information about his personality. Although most scientists classify graphology as a pseudoscience, its practice is widespread in Europe and many American Business firms regularly consult graphologists for advice about which people to hire/fire. At least one American university - the New School for Social Research in New York City - teaches graphology as a serious diagnostic aid.

Some of the principles on which graphology is based are true: for example handwriting changes with the stresses of illness, old age and tension. The serious psychological study of handwriting has been more widespread in Europe than in the USA. In the 1980s the French psychologist, Alfred Binet, tested

seven graphologists. He asked them to distinguish writing samples of 37 highly successful men from samples of 37 very unsuccessful ones. All the graphologists performed better than chance would allow, and one scored correctly on 92% of the cases.

Despite lack of 'evidence' for the claims of graphology, many psychologists consider the study of handwriting a useful diagnostic tool. Indeed, several psychology textbooks on projective techniques include discussions of graphology. Such techniques are testing methods that obtain information about a patient's personality without asking direct questions.

We are now looking into areas that were never previously thought of, utilizing techniques that, before now, were considered of little value to UFO research. The advent of the computer analysis for clarification and retrieval of photographic images is one aspect that has advanced the study of Ufology tremendously and although many feel its use is of limited value, and the results obtained are of questionable validity, it must be remembered that this equipment is still undergoing refinement and will eventually 'come of age'. PSE (psychological stress evaluation) machines have recently been introduced to complement regressive hypnosis and their use in determining the validity of the witness's testimony has already been proven. It is considered nearly foolproof by at least 10 law enforcement agencies in the USA and in Australia their introduction has surpassed their owners expectations.

These techniques are all tools for the researcher to use, but like all things new and innovative, they get knocked! What have the 'old' methods gained us? Are we a lot closer following the 'established' rules? Is there any reason why we shouldn't adopt new methodologies to promote UFO research even if the methods at first appear 'way out'?

The answer to all these questions is a resounding NO! and where applicable NOTHING!

Why not consider graphology? Isn't it in the same league? What have we got to lose? At least TRY IT!

Handwriting analysis is used extensively in criminal investigations and while I do not class our witnesses as criminals, the procedure, in many cases, is the same. In other words, we obtain testimony on a certain event and through a logical sequence of movements we gradually uncover the 'facts'. We travel from one location to another; we analyze anything pertinent - sometimes using very sophisticated equipment; we question people; we take photos; verbatim statements; written data; check on the background of the reporter and his acquaintances as well as compiling a completed record of the event.

We deal with people, so we must concentrate more on what they supply us, including their own testimony. It stands to reason that the more information we have on the person making the report the more concrete that report will be in the eyes of a critical scrutineer.

If courts and Police departments utilize handwriting analyses and get results, why not Ufology?

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ALL THAT GLITTERS..... Compiled by David Rees.

COTTINGLY PHOTOGRAPHS: Many UK readers may have seen the BBC TV play called Fairies, which was a dramatisation of the alleged incidents concerning two girls who took a camera into Cottingly Glen in Yorkshire in 1917 and photographed fairies in various poses. Chicago born Robert Sheaffer wrote an article called 'The Cottingly Photographs - winged Ufonauts' which first appeared in Official UFO in October 1977. He states, "The Cottingly photos must be considered one of the great unsolved mysteries facing the Ufo analyst". In the June 1978 issue of 'Fate' Sheaffer again writes about the photos, but this time with a different viewpoint - item titled 'The Cottingly Fairies -

a Hoax?'. In this he presents the results of William Spauldings computer analysis of the photos; he concludes that the facial features were painted on as brush marks are visible as is a thread of string suspending a figure. In the November 1978 issue of 'Fate' Jerome Clark hits the nail on the head, he tells of Psychical researcher Fred Gettings tracing three of the figures to a childrens book called 'Princess Mary's Gift Book' published in 1915 (two years before the first photos, by Hodder and Stoughton; the illustrations in question are from an Alfred Noyes poem entitled 'A spell for a fairy' - all that was required was an enlargement of the wings plus a re-arrangement of the figures before transferring them onto glass. Other points in this item also indicate a hoax. Gnome News in the August issue featured Sheaffers Official UFO article and the book 'Fairies - The Cottingley Photographs and their Sequel' by Edward L Gardner (The Theosophical Publishing House - 1974) A story that has survived over 60 years really does seem a drawn-out HOAX!

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THE AMITYVILLE HORROR

Some readers will no doubt have read the book on this case by Jay Anson, concerning the Lutz family moving into a new £40,000 home at 112, Ocean Ave., Amityville, USA. The last occupants were all murdered as they slept (six in all). The Lutz family stayed in the house for 28 days, after alleged witnessing every conceivable paranormal event including - an encounter with a horned creature, levitation, hoof marks in the snow, room odours, strange noises, moving objects, swarms of flies, green slime oozing from floors and walls, and a snorting horrendously ugly red-eyed pig. The very American blurb on the book cover exclaims, "MORE HIDEOUSLY FRIGHTENING THAN THE EXORCIST, BECAUSE IT ACTUALLY HAPPENED". Many of the claims in the book on investigation do not hold up, for example, the book by Anson gives details of a strange encounter a priest goes through who agreed to bless the house. "As the priest is driving along the Van Wyck Expressway in Queens, he finds his car is forced onto the shoulder of the road, his hood (bonnet) flies open and smashes against the windshiel. The right door opens suddenly and as Mancuso (the priest) attempts to brake the car stalls". In actual fact Father Mancuso experienced nothing more than a flat tyre! His car was old and in a state of disrepair, also Anson states the Police Department were called in, yet the Police disagree - no involvement. The whole book is covered with examples like the above. Jay Anson is a screenwriter, best know, you've guessed it, for his work on the hit film THE EXORCIST. Needless to say, a film version of the haunting has been made and was released in Britain early this year. Directed by Stuart Rosenberg and starring amongst others Rod Steiger In the States the film is a big hit and had raked in more than 60,000,000 dollars by January; not a bad return on an initial investment of 5,000,000 dollars making the movie. The Jay Anson novel has also sold well, over four million copies! Did Anson see the potential in the Lutz claims to create the ultimate "DEVIL" movie, e.g. Rosemary's Baby/Omen? Since their story has been published, the Lutz family's fortunes have changed dramatically - at the time he was a land surveyor with a king-sized mortgage (£40,000) for the house and a tax problem. Since the versions of the story have been sold to a newspaper, a mass circulation magazine, book and a film, George Lutz has given up his job and bought a luxury home near the sea at La Costa in California. Melvin Harris of the British Society for psychic Research says "Mr and Mrs. Lutz told three different versions of what is supposed to have happened". The Psychical Research Foundation at Duke University looked into the case and decided there was nothing worth investigating. Dr. Stephen Kaplan, Director of the Parapsychology Institute of America states, "After several months of extensive research and interviews with those involved, we have found no evidence to support any claim of a haunted house. What we did find is a couple who had purchased a house they could not afford and it is our professional opinion that the story of the haunting is mostly fiction."

Lawyer William Webber is quoted as saying, "We created this horror story over many bottles of wine." And what of the present owners of 112 Ocean Ave., Well James and Barbara Comarty don't hold back with their thoughts - "The Lutz tale of horror is a pack of lies!" So, what do you think? Here in Britain we have what is regarded as the most haunted house in the World, (in fact the house was destroyed some years ago, but the "Activities" have been transferred from the Rectory to the Church). The location is Borley and was much investigated by the late Harry Price - the whole Borley enigma is well documented unlike Anson's novel written approach, put together in similar vein to Ufologys novel answer, Clive Harolds - "The Uninvited" - How long will it be before we see this incident under the film title of "THE DYFED DEMON"?

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INSTITUTE FOR THE EVALUATION OF ANOMALOUS PHENOMENA

The following case is taken from Flying Saucer Review, Volume 23, No.1 - 1977.

It appears as one of several cases described in an article entitled "NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE FLAP WITH HUMANOID REPORT" by Jenny Randles.

This case has been re-evaluated by the Institute and the conclusions and comments are given overleaf:

Occupants seen at Bignall End.

The final event saw the flap, and the year, out with a bang - quite literally!

On December 31, 1976, Mrs. Nellie Richardson, a 65-year old lady, from Bignall End - a village which once more overlooks the Cheshire plains to the north west with about twelve miles of gentle, undulating lands towards the town of Crewe, was awoken from her sleep by a loud bang. This sound was also confirmed by her neighbour, although she sleeps in a southwards-facing bedroom and did not see anything.

Mrs. Richardson got out of bed to see what was happening because a brilliant yellow glow was flooding into her bedroom. As she reached the window she saw that it came from a large oval object outside, hovering over the countryside.

Investigators were later to ascertain that it was on a bearing of 290° and at a low elevation of 10°. The interview was conducted some twelve hours after the sighting and it appears that there is likely to be a reasonable amount of accuracy about these figures. In size it was equivalent to a nine inch diameter dinner plate held at a distance of ten feet.

Mrs. Richardson wanted to know the time but her alarm clock had stopped, so she went downstairs and confirmed that it was 02.45 a.m. She set her clock right and went back upstairs. The object had now moved slightly and was on a bearing of 320°, appearing much larger than the full moon, and filling one quarter of the window. It now seemed to be moving towards her and darkened to an orange colour.

She watched the object for well over an hour before it appeared to move away. At this point she says that two shadowy figures appeared to be silhouetted against the side of the object. They were like toy soldiers and were quite definitely moving about in front of it. They disappeared from view and the object continued to move away.

At about 4.15 a.m. her 31-year-old son John, who is an engineer, returned from a restaurant. He saw his mother very distressed, and was able to watch the object move away into the distance, glowing like a gas fire. He explained to her that he had seen it as he had driven home, looking like a glowing orange ball, and moving very slowly to the north west towards Crewe. He had been watching it for fifteen minutes.

There is one interesting footnote to this incident. The family cat was found on the downstairs window ledge staring out towards the object. The Richardsons attest that he is never disturbed during the night by anything.

No explanation for this report was found. Often in long-duration sightings of this type one suspects an astronomical solution, but there was nothing which could be of relevance here. The moon was not full and had in fact set before the incident began. On a TV programme about the sighting Dr. Ron Maddison of Keel University discussed possible explanations with Derek James, one of the investigators, and could offer none. Manchester Airport had no radar trackings, and there were no aircraft movements in the area. Cheshire police could also offer no solution.

Investigation of all these reports fell to the hands of the UFORA Staffordshire group, who did a fine job in evaluating and correlating them. Particular thanks are due to investigators Derek James, and Chris Bourne.

UFO Report - Bignall End, Staffs - 31.12.76

EVALUATION:

It was because of the alleged long duration of this event that an astronomical explanation was immediately suspected - in this particular instance, the Moon.

Meteorological records show that there had been long clear period overnight (30/31st December '76) leading to a frost and some mist patches, and this was the case when the observations took place. The Royal Observatory at Herstmonceux confirmed our calculations that the Moon set at 03.18 GMT on 31st December on a bearing of 294° true. Contrary to what is stated in the article the Moon, therefore, had not set before the incident began!

The bearing of 290° and the elevation of 10° quoted in the article are described as being reasonably accurate. But, considering the nearness of the witness to the window through which the observation was made (i.e. 10 ft) and the accuracy of remembrance as to the position of the object in the window, measurements which deviated only slightly from the actual point of observation would have no better accuracy than plus or minus 10° . Therefore, as the observation began shortly before 02.45 GMT, in a direction somewhere between say 280° and 300° and an elevation of between 0° and 20° , it would have been impossible under the prevailing weather conditions for Mrs. Richardson not to have observed the Moon! In an interview, she stated she had not seen the Moon, but a large glowing object which illuminated her bedroom with yellow light (Moonlight?). In her description, she said the object was very bright on the left hand side and more diffused on the right. This is easily consistent with the Moon seen under frosty conditions when ice crystals in the atmosphere tended to refract and diffuse the light, thus enhancing the overall size of the image.

Looking through Mrs. Richardson's window in the direction of the observation, one could not help noticing a telegraph pole some way down the field, and it is quite easy to see where the alleged "shadowy entities" originated from! Bearing in mind the time of morning, and the fact that the witness is 65 years old and wears glasses, it is not unreasonable to suggest that she simply observed the top of this pole silhouetted against the setting Moon, its image diffused and the colour reddened by atmospheric extinction and refraction by ice crystals in the frosty atmosphere.

The article states "no explanation for the report was found". Our findings disagree completely with this superficial conclusion. It is also most surprising that Dr. Ron Maddison, one time director of the Lunar Section of the British Astronomical Association, did not conclude that the UFO was nothing more than the Moon! But then, Dr. Maddison has no experience of investigating UFO reports and, in fact, was not involved in this case personally. We cannot vouch for the additional bearing given as 320° and it is not plain whether any of the bearings recorded are magnetic or otherwise.

The only piece of information which appears to conflict with the "Moon explanations" is the time of observation given by Mrs. Richardson's son. After speaking to both witnesses, we are now convinced that the son made

an error in the time of his observation of one hour! It appears that he determined the time by a clock on the wall of a cafe near his home where he had spent the early hours of the morning with a friend. He admits that when he "checked" the time from his seat by the wall, he had to look across the face of the clock and it is possible that a mistake could have been made. The clock in any case is not always accurate and on the morning in question was approximately 10 minutes fast.

Mrs. Richardson is quite sure she did not observe the object, all told, for more than about 40 minutes. This duration covers her initial observation, her going downstairs to check the time (02.45 GMT) and making and drinking a cup of tea and, finally, her return to bed to watch the object for a further 10 to 15 minutes. At the end of this time her son had returned home and had joined her at the bedroom window for two or three minutes to see the object disappear over the horizon, i.e. calculated at a time between 03.15 and 03.20 GMT. The Moon set at 03.18 GMT.

CONCLUSIONS: It is concluded, therefore, that the UFO sighting was consistent with the witnesses observing the Moon under 'unusual' meteorological conditions.

COMMENTS: The treatment of this case once more evidences the poor standards of investigation of UFO reports in this country. The evaluation is obviously very superficial. To call the observation a "humanoid report" is a gross misrepresentation of the facts and appears to stem not only from a lack of objectivity and certain pre-conceived ideas about the subject, but from a need to sensationalise what was, in fact, nothing more than the misidentification of a natural phenomenon.

We only hope that those researchers who may have inadvertently recorded this case as a "humanoid" report will amend their records for the sake of accuracy, and like to many other alleged UFO reports*, this only also will be relegated to the category of unidentified objects, fabrications and hoaxes.

*The SAN JOSE DE VALDERAS photographs; the 'UMMO' affair; the CALFNAPPING case of April 1897 and the 1897 'AIRSHIP' EPISODE.

(Bearing in mind the "Ethics" Article in SW33 by Mark Moravec, this evaluation by IEAP makes interesting reading - Editor).

.....

A SUBMISSION TO THE INTERNATIONAL WORKING PARTY ON STANDARDS IN UFO RESEARCH REGARDING THEIR 'INTERNATIONAL DEFINITION OF UFO REPORT'.

This submission raised some objections to the above definition as accepted by the Working Party at their first London talks and communicated in the report by Peter Hill. The following presentation is logically equivalent to the definition set out by Mr. Hill:

1. A UFO Report is a statement.
2. This statement has been made by a person, or persons, judged responsible and psychologically normal by commonly accepted standards.
3. The statement describes a personal visual or instrumentally aided perception of a phenomenon and/or its assumed physical effects.
4. The description does not specify any known physical event, object or process
5. The description does not specify any psychological event or process.

First Objection:

Presumably clause 5 should read: "The description does not specify any known psychological event or process". One cannot judge whether a description specified an unknown psychological process, as clauses 4 and 5, taken together, imply.

Second Objection

The following hypothetical case illustrates the problematical nature of clause 2:

'A certified lunatic, 'A', recently escaped from an asylum and recaptured in a drunken state, makes the following statement in a rare moment of lucidity:

"When I was free, I saw a UFO.....(description).....which landed in a field. An entity got out and gave me the attached object."

On analysis, the object turns out to be of an alloy that cannot be made using present technology. After several days, a picture of the UFO described by 'A' develops on the surface of the object'.

So even in the presence of overwhelming evidence for the accuracy of the statement, the definition insists on its not being a valid UFO Report. It is not appropriate to define 'UFO Report' on the basis of an essentially subjective judgement of the character of the person responsible for the statement. Hoaxes, drunken illusions and psychopathological fantasies are quite adequately covered by clause 5.

Third objection:

My final objection is much more fundamental. Again I will illustrate it with an example:

'A reputable physicist, 'B', described in a statement how he observed and photographed the trace in a cloud chamber of what he believes to be a new fundamental particle. Analysis of the photograph shows conclusively that the trace is not due to 'any known physical event, object or process'. 'B's' statement meets all of the requirements of the 'International Definition of UFO Report'! Later on the term 'UFO' is defined as "The stimulus giving rise to a UFO report". Physicists will no doubt be interested to know that, from now on, any new particles they find are, in fact, UFOs!

This example shows that the definition, as presently formulated, takes in any presently unknown phenomenon that can be observed, or can be detected using instruments. It is thus quite useless to a person faced with the problem of deciding whether a given document is, or is not, a UFO Report. To make sense of the definition we would have to assume:

1. That there is a single unique stimulus or class of stimuli that can be termed 'UFO'.
2. That there are no other observable or detectable stimuli not presently known to science.

Both these assumptions seem to me to be unwarranted.

Conclusion:

The International Working Party will, it seems to me, have to do some much more fundamental thinking about the nature of UFOs and ufology before they can be near to being able to propose an acceptable definition of 'UFO Report'.

Finally, I would like to post the following question, which is aimed at stimulating such fundamental thinking:

"Is there any meaningful reason to categorise say, a report on the Hill abduction case, and a report on the Lakenheath Radar/Visual case together except that they have both been interpreted, essentially in a folk-art, non-scientific manner, as evidence of extraterrestrial visitation?"

Please send any correspondence to:

19 Cairnshill Avenue,
Belfast BT8 4NR
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JOHN. A HIND.

REVIEWS

REVIEWS

REVIEWS

REVIEWS

REVIEWS

BOOKS:

THE AIRMEN WHO WOULD NOT DIE by John G Fuller (Souvenir Press) £5.95.

Fortynine years ago, amid the great international race to produce a means of air transport that would outstrip the efforts of other countries, A British team at Cardington, near Bedford, constructed the gigantic airship the R101. Measuring 777 feet from nose to tail, it was built to revolutionise travel in the 1930s, but from the beginning it was beset by production problems and by its very nature seemed unlikely to be capable of carrying enough passengers to make it economically viable.

Into this already fraught situation came a voice of doom from beyond the grave. World War 1 ace Captain Raymond Hinchliffe, recently killed in a plane crash with Elsie Mackey in the Atlantic, revealed himself in a seance to warn of the R101s terrible fate. Mounting anxiety in which Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes and an active Spiritualist became involved failed to deter the political and financial backers, afraid of losing face. The R101 took off on her maiden flight to India...and crashed on the French side of the Channel, killing 48 of her 54 passengers and crew - an horrific mistake, the flight should never have taken place, political pressure to fly because of competition from France and the United States had ended in disaster and the end of the development of airships of any kind. John G Fuller has written a truly astounding book, bringing to the notice of the world the facts concerning this fascinating case for the existence of precognition and life after death, a subject which is gaining popularity, to the point where people are now asking "is there a life before life?". Fuller takes the reader on a historical journey before finally coming to the climax, throughout the book he builds his case in a very meticulous manner and at no time is the book disjointed. Harry Price, a well-known psychic investigator at the time became involved in the case and was someone who had little interest in spiritualism. He simply wanted to know clinically how and why a psychic medium could possibly get through factual information that purported to be from the dead. Eileen Garrett, one of the mediums involved, was put through Price's rigid and in-depth study; not many survived his analysis; she did and her work was given more credibility because of this. The interest shown by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Harry Price are shown to have developed a struggle between the two of them; this centred on Doyle's persuasion that harsh and vigorous testing of a medium could destroy the delicate communication channels, on the other hand Price felt that any medium worth his or her salt, would overcome the severity of the testing and prove themselves. One early moment of the book tells of how Doyle moulded the character of Sherlock Holmes on a medical professor named Dr. Joseph Bell. I quote, "He (Bell) once brought an ailing derelict into class one day, who limped over to a chair in front of the class. Bell demanded of a student to diagnose the man without touching him. Use your powers of deduction, he said. The student was baffled - hipjoint disease, Sir? he said. Hip nothing! Bell told him. One problem comes from his feet, - study the shoes. There are slits out in them to relieve pressure. The man has corns, but we don't treat corns here, we are not chiropodists. His trouble is far more serious: Chronic alcoholism, notice the red, nose, the puffed face, the bloodshot eyes and the pulsating arteries. But we need concrete evidence - what confirms the diagnosis. The student had no answer and Dr. Bell went over to the patient and pointed. The diagnosis is confirmed without question by the neck of a whisky bottle protruding from the patient's righthand pocket, Bell explained".

If you read this book with an open mind, at its conclusion it will have made you seriously think and perhaps accept the life after death hypothesis more than ever before; it achieved this as far as I am concerned. John G Fuller has written over a dozen books, amongst these are included two 'classic' UFO books 'Incident at Exeter' and 'The Interrupted Journey' based on the Barney and Betty Hill abduction case. Last year saw the publishing of 'The Ghost of Flight 401' an instang bestseller converting Fuller into the belief of the survival of the spirit. I find this latest work a most valuable addition to anyone's bookcase.

By David Rees.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS UFO DEBATE

Open Head Press/Pentacle Books 1979 Paperback £2.95.

Copies of Hansard costing 40p containing the official transcript of the debate in the House of Lords on 18 January 1979 sold out very quickly. The debate initiated by The Earl of Clancarty (Brinsley Le Poer Trench) attracted world-wide interest, and writer John Michell has pasted up the respective pages of Hansard, adding biographical notes, annotations and illustrations. While some of the notes are of an extraneous nature "Several notorious fakes continue to do the rounds in UFO publications..." there are useful references to dates and events. Also of interest was the inclusion of the dubious 'official' list of alleged UFO contacts, referred to by Lord Kimberley, one of the abler contributors to the debate. Altogether some 14 members of the Lords contributed including two scientists, Lord Kings Norton and Lord Halsbury. The most entertaining speech came from Labour Peer, Lord Davies of Leek. Tory spokesman, Lord Trefgarne, made such an inane opening reply to Lord Clancarty from the Dispatch Box that a fellow Tory, The Earl of Cork and Orrery, strongly disassociated himself: "If this represents all that the Conservative Party can produce in the way of thinking on what is undoubtedly a serious subject, whatever your opinion about it may be, then this is deplorable."

Personally I found the overall level of awareness shown by their Lordships in the debate lasting nearly three hours, to be both dated and disappointing, and the Bishop of Norwich's divergence into religious philosophy did little to help.

Lord Clancarty has contributed both an introductory preface and an 'afterword' in which he notes the establishment on 19 June 1979, of a "House of Lords All Party UFO Study Group." This book is a solidly produced paperback of over 110 pages, and forms a useful record of the Lords Parliamentary Debate.

Lionel Beer.

LECTURE ON UFOS BY CHARLES GIBBS-SMITH

On 20th November 1979, Betty Wood, Eve Demuth and I attended an evening lecture at the College of Psychic Studies in Queensbury Place, South Kensington. The Chairman introduced Charles Gibbs-Smith ("Am over 70 now") as the First Professor of Aerospace History at the Smithsonian Institute. Charles stressed at the start that there was "absolutely no question that they are real". He seemed to devote the first 15 minutes and in fact a substantial part of his talk to attacking official attitudes. He noted that in the House of Lords debate, Lord Hewlett had been briefed by Sir Bernard Lovell to the effect that although Jodrell Bank had been on watch 24 hours a day, they had never seen a UFO. Charles claimed that an unnamed man who worked for Sir Bernard had been forbidden to discuss UFOs. It was claimed that the late Earl Mountbatten had accepted the existence of UFOs and had asked for reports to be placed on his desk in Whitehall. Charles mentioned official interest in France, but went on to 'Aunt Sally' scientists in general. He assured us that he had looked at the 1897 flap in the USA and it was his job to know that there were no man-made machines flying at the time. (No mention was made of Dr. Doel's researches into the Pennington airship). He thought that George Adamski was an honest man, but was a half-baked 'seer'. He exhorted us to view the 15th century frescoes of Piero della Francesca (in Arezzo, Tuscany) who had a good line cloud-like UFOs. Charles admitted to a fear of looking at lightning, and he had seen a 2 ft fireball sitting on the rig holding the cross-members of a boat. He quoted Dr. Allen Hynek several times and said that "Hynek is a very fine man". During question time he revealed that he had forgotten the titles of Charles Fort's books, although he had referred to Fort in his talk.

As he had recently returned from the USA, it was the more surprising that apart from references to GEPAN, the UN and the Lord debate, the subject matter of his rather bitty talk was at least five years out of date. For someone erudite in aviation history, he really ought to have briefed himself for his preamble on UFOs.

Lionel Beer.

STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE by David Coote.

An alien force of immense power is heading towards Earth and the only Federation vessel in interception range is the Enterprise, currently in 'space dry-dock' undergoing a complete re-fit. Admiral Kirk is appointed Captain and returns to 'his' ship to find most of his old friends at work. Doctor "Bones" McCoy arrives shortly afterwards and Spock joins them following a near-disasterous first attempt at warp speed. Displaced Captain Matt Decker and Navigator Ilia are additions to the 'old crew'.

There may be unfortunates that have not yet seen the film so I will not go into the Enterprise's efforts to save Earth.

On the debi side of the movie are a corny opening - this immense THING is heading towards us and we've got to stop it - which is reminiscent of the worst SF 'B' movies. There is too little background on what the old crew have been up to in the years since the end of their five year mission - hardly a serious fault, though, and one of two of the visual sequences are too long.

But there is much to recommend it.

Despite the corny opening the 'problem' is not solved by "blasting the baddies to bits." The familiar crew help the characters and the plot (the 'human adventure') rise above the excellent special effects - these becoming, as they should be, a fine addition to the film, not the reason for it.

The humour, so evident in the series, is there with some very funny moments. The music is good and the trick of playing the original theme 'behind' Kirk's entries in the Log is very nice.

All the actors give creditable performances, including the two newcomers, but my prize would go to DeForest Kelley as "Bones". From the moment he walks on (if one can forget the beard!) he is so completely in character as the cynical humanitarian Doctor McCoy it is difficult to believe its ten years since he played the part.

Halfway between 'Star Wars' and '2001' this should achieve the imperative of a smash success. The original series was only sold as a 'Wagon Train to the Stars' and then went on to deal with many moral, religious and other issues and hopefully a sequel will provide a more thought-provoking story. Still this is an excellent film to revive Star Trek and well worth seeing, despite the exorbitant cinema admission charges!

(David is amember of the Star Trek Action Group.)

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1978/79 MAPIT INVESTIGATIONS - A SHORT SUMMARY

The following cases represent investigations which are completed by the team, there are still many cases still under investigation and these shall be featured in forthcoming issues of SKYWATCH.

(Below table you will find key to abbreviations)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Colour</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Level</u>
7.6.78	Altrincham	1100	Cigar	Silver Red <u>Insuff.data</u>	Med	B
21.9.78	Sale	2315	Round	White <u>Insuff.Data</u>	Low	C
1.12.78	Offerton	2405	Triangle	Red <u>Unidentified</u>	Med	A
9.12.78	Timperley	1540	Cigar	Orange/White <u>Insuff.data.</u>	Med	B
10.12.78	Brooklands	2415	Rectangle	White <u>Insuff.data</u>	Med	B
14.12.78	Poynton	0730	Streak	White <u>Meteorological</u>	Low	B
16.12.78	Bromley Cross	0125	Circular	Green/Yellow <u>Insuff.data</u>	Med	B
31.12.78	Cheadle Hulme	1915	Ball/Tail	Yellow <u>Satellite</u>	Low	B
3.1.79	Heaton Moor	0715	Starlike	White <u>Poss Meteorological</u>	Low	B
8.2.79	Cheadle	0430	3 lights	2 white 1 red <u>Aircraft</u>	Low	B
11.2.79	Congleton	1740	Lits/beam	White <u>Poss Aircraft</u>	Low	C
22 3.79	Irlam	2015	Lits	White <u>Aircraft</u>	Low	B
1. 4. 79	Eccles	2115	Oval	Red/Green White <u>Aircraft</u>	Med	A
12.7.79	Preston	2200	Lits	White/Red <u>Aircraft</u>	Low	B

KEY TO ABOVE

Each case has an evaluation level ie: insuff - insufficient Dats or Poss Aircraft possible aircraft, etc.

Def - Definition. Level A - On Site
Low -(no shape) Level B - Interview
Med -(shape, no effects) Level C - Report Form
CEI -(Temporary effects)

Of the fourteen cases featured above, thirteen are identified and one remains unidentified.

GREECE: UFO encounter in 1929.

Ufo investigator, Engineer and member of the Hellenic Cave Organisation, Mr. Konstantinos Trahtafyllou informed me of a very old ufo case at Chalkidiki. Another investigator George Moustakas gave me a very good report of the story. The witnesses name is Mr. Moustakas Theocliaris who was born in 1910 and is the classic type of farmer. The sighting occurred in August 1929 at about 12 midnight; it was a Sunday and the duration of the sighting was approx. 20 mins. The weather was clear and the stars and moon were visible. According to the witness the ufo was shaped like a parachute, "I was in my truck, which was carrying flour from the mill at Krini, I saw under the object (on the ground) three little people that spoke with a very curious language; they were very small and were dressed in which cloths with white hoods; their skin was very white also - I could not understand them. Near the object was a fence which the small people jumped over very easy, many times. I was much afraid and returned back to the village, running when I got to the square to all the people there who told me that I had seen 'devils'; others told me that I was crazy. Many said though that they too had seen them in the past "many times". The next day nothing turned up at the area".

Credit: Omiros Karajas - Overseas Correspondent.....

USA: EERIE CLUES BACK OFFICER'S UFO REPORT

WARREN, Minn. (AP) - a Brilliantly lighted object that swept down on a deputy sheriff's car and left the vehicle damaged and the officer unconscious remained a mystery Thursday.

Aside from being shocked and sustaining a mild case of "welder's blindness", Deputy Val Johnson was in good condition Thursday, three days after the incident. It happened early Monday on the flats of the agricultural Red River Valley in northwestern Minnesota.

The chief investigator for the Center for UFO Studies, Allan Hendry, investigated the case and at his Evanston, Ill., headquarters Thursday, he said: "It is almost incredible case and there are some most unusual clues", including the two bent antennas, shattered windshield, broken headlamp and a small dent in the hood of the patrol car.

"A truly anomalous case", Hendry said. "We receive about 1,000 tips of UFOs a year. We investigate by phone the most interesting ones. But in the event of an unusual case like this, where damage is involved, its worth going out to sea".

Hendry said he was intrigued by the fact that there was no damage to the rim of the headlamp. Also, the radio antennas were bent over, but there was no evidence of paint marks, and the bugs on them hadn't been scraped off.

And Johnson's wristwatch and the electric clock in the car each stopping for 14 minutes heightened the mystery.

The Federal Aviation Agency and Grand Forks Air Base had no reports of aircraft in the area at the time of the incident. "But it doesn't prove a plane wasn't there".

Johnson, 35 who apparently was unconscious for about 30 minutes after the incident, has worked at the Marshall County sheriff's office 2 1/2 years.

Sheriff Dennis Brekke said Johnson is a good, stable worker, with a wife and three children, and "people like him real well".

Johnson intended staying at his home in Oslo, Minn., Thursday, but went to meet with reporters at the sheriff's office in Warren.

I was pretty down in the dumps the first couple of days afterwards", the Officer said. "I thought I was in mental difficulty. It's pretty hard for me to justify, since I work with facts and logic.

But what happened isn't logical, and that's a bit frightening".

The Dallas Morning News - August 31st 1979 - Lindy Whitehurst.....

PSIUFOLOGICAL PHENOMENA: UFOs AND THE PARANORMAL - by Mark Moravec

"...In Ufology the rule is to think of everything and to believe nothing".
- Aime Michel, 1969.

Over recent years, many UFO researchers have increasingly focused their attention on what I term "psiufological" phenomena: those cases where UFO and paranormal events apparently overlap. Some claim that this type of case holds the key to unlock the UFO mystery. Others claim that such cases are unreliable and distract us from proving the physical reality of UFOs. The only way to determine what viewpoint is correct, is by thoroughly investigating and researching reports of psiufological events. The aim of this paper is to present an overview of psiufological phenomena, hypothesise that may explain such events, and some implications for investigation. Psiufological phenomena can be split up into a number of categories:

1. MENTAL COMMUNICATIONS

In these cases, a person claims to have received mental communications from a source that is usually identified as a UFO entity. The communication may be received before, during or after a UFO encounter and through a variety of modes including apparent telepathy, automatic writing, trance-status or visions.

In the simplest case, a witness may report that "something" made him look up, and there above him was a UFO. A number of hypotheses may explain this reaction:

- (1) It is just a coincidence that the witness happened to look up at the time the UFO was present.
- (2) The witness's own, natural ESP made him aware of the UFOs presence.
- (3) The UFO intelligence deliberately made its presence known to the witness by means of a telepathically-transmitted signal.

In more complex cases, the witness may receive a communication predicting future events or a communication consisting of heavy, philosophical cum spiritual concepts. An example of mental communication in the UFO context is the Frankston, Victoria case of 25 July, 1972. Mrs. M. Puddy observed a blue, disc-shaped object while driving along the Mooraduc Road. She lost control of her car which slowed to a halt by itself. She became aware of an audible "voice" in her mind which said: "All your tests will be negative. Tell the media we mean no harm. You now have control". The witness experienced apparitions of alleged UFO entities in the following year (Basterfield, 1977; Magee, 1972). In this type of case, the "communication" may be explicable as:

- (1) An unconscious fantasy incorporating previous knowledge of UFO cases (cf: hypnotic regression cases).
- (2) A "symptom" of psychopathological behaviour (cf: paranoid schizophrenia) triggered by a personal crisis unrelated to the UFO experience.
- (3) A "symptom" of psychopathological behaviour triggered by a traumatic UFO experience.
- (4) A telepathic communication to the witness from the UFO intelligence.

Hypotheses (1) and (2) may be less likely if it can be shown that objective, physical UFO events have occurred. Our present level of knowledge may be inadequate to enable us to differentiate between hypotheses (3) and (4). However, perhaps the content of the communication may give us a lead.

2. POLTERGEISTS

Poltergeists (literally "noisy spirits") usually involve the unexplained movements of objects. Most parapsychologists hold the view that poltergeists centre around a person who unconsciously uses his powers of psychokinesis (mind over matter) to take out his frustrations on the physical environment. Poltergeists may interact with UFOs in several ways. A UFO witness may have had a history of poltergeist disturbances prior to his UFO sighting, or he may find that his residence is suddenly "invaded" by a poltergeist subsequent

to his UFO experience. At the flap level, UFOs and poltergeists may be witnessed in the same geographical area over a short time-span. UFO cases involving the "levitation" of the witness or his vehicle could conceivably also involve poltergeist effects. An example of an apparent UFO-poltergeist interaction is the Wooler, Ontario, Canada case of 2 July, 1968. Fred and Wayne Coulthard observed an object with rotating red lights which agitated the family's horses and cats. Less than two hours later, poltergeist disturbances began in the house and continued for several days. A window shattered; cards, spoons and a glass were thrown around; and a strong odour of roses was detected in the kitchen (Greystone, 1969).

Assuming hoaxes have been ruled out, the following hypotheses might explain the UFO-poltergeist type of psiufological phenomena:

- (1) At the flap level, if the mass media are giving wide coverage of one unusual phenomenon (UFOs), they will also tend to report other unusual phenomena (poltergeists), thus creating a spurious correlation.
 - (2) The close encounter UFO experience triggers or amplifies psi abilities such as psychokinesis which is manifested unconsciously as a poltergeist.
 - (3) Both poltergeists and UFOs are temporary, physical manifestations unconsciously produced by paranormal means by the central witness.
 - (4) Both UFOs and poltergeists are manifestations of an intelligence external to man.
 - (5) A witness with poltergeist disturbances is psychic and psychic people are more likely to see a UFO existing beyond the normal sensory range.
- Hypothesis (3) implies an internal, person-centred cause; hypothesis (4) implies an external cause; and hypotheses (2) and (5) imply an interaction between internal and external causes. Since poltergeists involve objective, physical events. UFO-poltergeist cases are potentially of high evidential value.

3. APPARITIONS

Apparitions are hallucinatory experiences of the visual kind involving the human figure. Apparitions gain significance when they exhibit correspondences with external events or with the experiences of other percipients. Most parapsychologists believe that apparitions are communications received via ESP which become conscious through a hallucinated experience. Apparitions and UFOs may interact in much the similar way as poltergeists and UFOs, except that in apparition cases we are apparently dealing with subjective experiences. The UFO witness may have seen apparitions prior, during or after his UFO experience. UFOs and apparitions may also be seen in the same locality. An example of a possible UFO-apparition interaction is the March, 1975 events at a highland farm in Tasmania. A man observed two soundless, flashing lights, beneath of which was a yellow glow dimly illuminating the ground. The lights speeded upwards at a steep angle. In the same month, two shooters observed an apparition on the same farm. One described it as a woman in the dress of the last century and which glided up steps; the other described it as an area of oval light which pulsed until it faded away to nothing. There were other sightings of apparitions and nocturnal lights at the same locale (TUFOIC, 1977).

Possible explanations for UFO-apparition cases are:

- (1) At the flap level, a spurious media correlation
- (2) Hypnopompic (intermediate state between sleep and wakefulness) or hypnagogic (between wakefulness and sleep) imagery.
- (3) a "symptom" of psychopathological behaviour triggered either by a personal crisis or a traumatic UFO experience.
- (4) A telepathic communication (manifesting as a visual hallucination) from the UFO intelligence.
- (5) Amplification of psi abilities (manifesting visually) by a UFO experience.
- (6) A witness of apparitions is psychic and psychic people are more likely to see a UFO existing beyond the normal sensory range.

4. PARANORMAL HEALINGS

In some cases, paranormal healings appear to be directly associated with UFOs. An example is the case of Dr. "X" which began on 2 November, 1968 in south-eastern France. Dr. "X", a biologist, observed the approach of two red and silver, luminescent, disc-shaped objects. The two objects merged into one, and shone a white spotlight on the witness. The object then "dematerialised" with a "bang". Afterwards, the witness realised that both a painful, three-day-old axe wound (from chopping wood) and a 10-year-old Algerian War wound had completely healed. The witness also experienced premonitions, mental communications and poltergeist disturbances subsequent to his sighting (Michel, 1969)

There appear to be three main alternatives to explain UFO-associated healings:

- (1) In some cases, the complaint itself was psychosomatic and was "cured" by suggestion after the UFO event.
- (2) Healings of short-term wounds may have been speeded up by electromagnetic radiation from the UFO.
- (3) A paranormal healing was carried out by the UFO intelligence.

5. GHOSTLIGHTS

"Ghostlights" are small lights which usually occur close to ground-level and tend to reappear in the same location. I have included ghost-lights as a type of psiufological phenomenon since they appear to fit both the classifications of a UFO (unidentified, airborne light) and a haunting (recurrent, localised manifestation). Australia's most famous ghostlight is undoubtedly the Min-Min Light which reportedly frequents the Boulia district of western Queensland. It has been described as a glary, green ball of light which moves 5-10 feet above the ground at an estimated 10 mph (Lamond, 1937; Cusack, 1975).

Ghostlights may be:

- (1) Misidentifications of natural phenomena such as wind-blown mists; phosphorescence in marshes; perceptual alterations in a non-illuminated visual field ("cerebral grey"); clusters of luminescent insects; light refraction effects; ball lightning or other electrical discharge.
- (2) Psychokinetic or poltergeist effects unconsciously produced by an individual.
- (3) Non-physical apparitions/ghosts.
- (4) Small, physical UFOs ("remote-control probes")

IMPLICATIONS FOR INVESTIGATION

I have looked at five categories of psiufological phenomena and hypotheses which may explain such cases. Some of these relatively bizarre cases may emanate from psychologically-disturbed people, so it is certainly desirable to have the participation of specialists in psychology and psychiatry where possible. Some case studies may also be aided by the application of hypnotic regression techniques by competent hypnotherapists.

Meaningful research requires an adequate base of thoroughly investigated and documented psiufological cases. The properly-equipped investigator needs to know how to investigate paranormal experiences as well as "down to earth" UFO events. To this end, I have designed a detailed questionnaire to supplement the standard UFO report form. The questionnaire for UFO/Paranormal cases covers the paranormal phenomena dealt with in this paper as well as general psychological and physiological reactions and witness background. Recommended guides to investigating paranormal events are SPR (1968) and Green (1976).

Probably the most important factors which the investigator of psiufological cases needs to pay attention to, are:

1. The witness's prior knowledge of UFO and paranormal phenomena. This is a critical factor in determining hoaxes, the influence of overactive imaginations or potential raw material for hallucinations.

2. The witness's previous and subsequent paranormal experiences, if any. This is an important factor in evaluating the apparent connections between UFOs and paranormal events.
3. Whether or not any objective, physical manifestations have taken place. If objective, physical events have taken place, we can be reasonably certain that the reported experiences are not solely psychopathological or hallucinatory in origin.

Finally, I would be interested in hearing about any psiufological cases that other investigators come across, for possible inclusion in a projected Australian catalogue of such cases.

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(The above item was presented at the 4th National Australian Conference of UFO Research in Sydney, October last year).

CASSETTES FOR SALE.

The following are audio recordings on standard Phillips Cassette tapes, running times listed are approximate

- CS-1 Space Visitors from Lanulus; Narrated by Woodrow Derenberger (30 min) audio of TV broadcast describing his contacts with Indrid Cold - £4.25.....
- CS-2 The Truth behind the flying saucers: (40 mins) The voices of famous contactees such as George van Tassel, Dan Fry and Orfeo Angelluci, also comments by Maj Donald Keyhoe and Frank Edwards - £4.25.....
- CS-3 MUSIC FROM ANOTHER PLANET: Narrated and played by Howard Menger (30 min). Menger tells of his meetings with space people and plays the music taught to him - £5.25.....
- CS-4 GRAY BARKER ON THE AIR (60 min). A typical radio interview with Barker wherein he recounts various UFO theories and creature encounters (sound quality inferior, but highly intelligible) - £4.75.....
- CS-5 THE WORLD OF KAZIK: (30 min) Narrated by Albert K B nder, famous for his hush up by Men in Black - £4.25.....
- CS-6 THE REINHOLD SCHMIDT STORY: (20 mins) This mutual radio network broadcast cites Schmidt's encounter with a UFO and with German speaking people on board on Nov.5th 1957. In conclusion we hear a spokesman for which sands proving grounds confirming a UFO at that base - £4.75.....

CS-7 The UFO Encounters of Jennings H Frederick: (60 min) Frederick has achieved national importance because of his encounter with a strange creature known as 'vegetable man'. Here is the first hand account, along with other amazing experiences including abduction and visitations by men in black. £4.25.

CS-8 The Men in Black (45 mins). John A Keel, addresses the 1967 New York Congress of Scientific Ufologists and relates cases of Men in Black, contactees, strange creatures and other data (see review of this tape in this issue - £4.75.....

CS-9 A Warning from UFOs by John Stuart (60 min. Tells of evil UFO entities who terrorise two UFO researchers and force them to abandon their work. This tape includes some shocking references and permissive statements. It is not recommended for children or people of an nervous disposition - £4.75.....

CS-10. Calos Allende Speaks: Near the actual voice of Carlos Miguel Allende as he tells of the Philadelphia experiment, the disappearing ship and his part in the mysterious rare edition of Jessups case for the UFO. Recorded during one of Allendes rare appearances. Is he a Government Agent, an imposter or one of the space people? (30 min) - £4.75.....

CS-11 The Shaver Mystery: (60 mins) told by the late Ray Palmer, in one of few recordings ever made of his voice. Palmer tells of spending a night in Shaver's house and hearing the voices of Dero. He also tells of the controversial Maury Island affair, and expresses some of his beliefs about life after death - £5.25.....

Prices include postage and packing. For payment overseas, please send an international money order, a Gifo transfer to account 36 822 2004, a bank draft or currency. Send to: Susan Stebeing, 41 Terminus Drive, Herne Bay, Kent.

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SKYWATCH UFO DETECTORS

One of the few facts that has been realised about UFOs and their activities is that they cause an electromagnetic effect on electronic and magnetic equipment. The reason for this is not really known, magnetic compasses spin wildly, TVs ghost, and radios emit hums and crackles. It has also been known for the UFOs E.M. field to cause switching relays to react in power stations and cause widespread blackouts.

For the Ufologist to stay out in the open searching the sky for 24 hours a day is not practical. So a device that could detect UFOs presence would be a vital piece of equipment for the serious UFO researcher.

Over the years I have been producing 'Skywatch UFO Detectors' (SKUFOD), I have had many requests and inquiries about the possibility of a pocket size UFO detector. I have in the past built such detectors but have not been practical or very successful.

Now thanks to modern electronics, I have produced such a detector that satisfactorily fits the requirement of the Ufologist. This detector can be carried in your pocket, Handbag, even used in your car, on public transport, and at night, left by your bedside. Of course, if you carry it in your pocket you must make sure that you don't have any other magnetic metal objects in the same pocket such as steel key, penknives, etc.

The electronic component that makes the portability of this SKUFOD possible is an electromagnetic field sensor that will detect the E.M. effect of the UFO when in the area. Although this new model is not as sensitive as the compass needle type detector, I believe that you will receive sufficient warning of the UFOs presence. The advantages of this new detector outweigh this slight reduction of sensitivity.

When the sensor detects the electromagnetic effect of a UFO, it pulses a signal to a latching circuit that in turn sounds an alarm. This alarm sounds until switched off or the battery runs down. When the detector is switched on guard, no battery power is used, only when activated does the detectors circuit draw current so the battery will last for a considerable period.

Skywatch UFO Detector (SKUFOD) pocket portable model specification

An electromagnetic field sensor type detector incorporating latching circuit and audio alarm. Housed in a high impact plastic case. Battery operated. Size: 70 x 50 x 25 (mm) 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 2 x 1 (inches), Price inclusive of post packing and batteries.....£9.00. When ordering state Pocket Portable Model.....

Obtainable from: Malcolm Jay, 102 Nelson Road, Chingford E4 9AS England.

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UFO INSIGHT: Published by the Federation of UFO research and an excellent and informative magazine. Single issues 25p and six issue sub £1.20p Send to FUFOR, 2 Acer Avenue, Crewe, Cheshire.....

WARMINSTER: Ley and UFO Centre. Cottage now available to UFO researchers, Skywatchers and Ley Hunters. Holidays or weekends. SAE details. - UFO Services, 47 Belsize Square, London NW3.

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UFO DIRECTORY: of UFO Societies, Groups and Publications Worldwide! Only £1.00 in postage from UFO Network, 2 St. Ivian Court, Colneyhatch Lane, London, N.10.....

THE END BITS

Quotations:

Elbert Hubbards definition of the function of an Editor: To separate the wheat from the chaff and to see the chaff gets published.:

Credit: Stigmata No.7 Fall 1979

Some people who jump at conclusions - lose sight of the hurdles (Anon)

Credit: Acos Bulletin No.20 Aug.1979

Committees of twenty deliberate plenty,
Committees of ten, act now and then
But the real work is done
By committees of one!

Credit: Magda Graham.

STRANGE DEATHS:

Villagers cut off the heads of a religious leader and his wife in the Phillipines after challenging them to prove there was a life after death.

A man who went fishing on the banks of the Amazon's Rio Negro was attacked By infuriated bees after he struck their nests while trying to free his line from a tree. To escape, he leapt into the river, where he was devoured by Piranha fish.

Credit: Fortean Times - No.30 Autumn 1979

"I don't care if they are balloons, reflections, aircraft, hallucinations or Patrick Moore lit up, nothing will crack my belief in flying saucers"...

Jean Rook - Daily Express 1979

Definition of a Housing Estate: A place where young people go to die.....?

MAGIC SAUCER: A pool of news and views reflecting the magic and mystery of strange things in the skies. A magazine for young UFO enthusiasts. 25p copy. Write to: 8 Ely Close, Huddersley Estate, Kidderminster, Worcestershire.....

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